



PATENT APPLICATION

IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

OTSUKI, et al.

Application No.: 10/768,151

Filed: February 2, 2004

Group Art Unit: 1751

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: 026035-00008

For: POLYMER ELECTROLYTE, PROTON CONDUCTIVE MEMBRANE AND  
MEMBRANE-ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

October 29, 2004

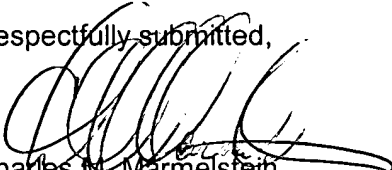
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 4. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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CMM:mso

Enclosures: PTO-1449 Form; Search Report; References (17)

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 026035-00008	SERIAL NO. 10/768,151
<b>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		APPLICANT OTSUKI, et al.	
		FILING DATE February 2, 2004	GROUP 1751

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	4,110,265	8/29/1978	Russell B. HODGDON			
	AB	5,312,876	5/17/1994	Thuy D. DANG, et al.			
	AC	5,525,436	6/11/1996	Robert F. SAVINELL, et al.			
	AD	5,599,639	2/4/1997	Michael J. SANSONE, et al.			
	AE	5,795,496	8/18/1998	Shaio-Ping S. YEN, et al.			
	AF	2001/0020082 A1	9/6/2001	Sylvain FAURE, et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO PART.		
	AG	WO 02/070592 A2	9/12/2002	WIPO				XX	
	AH	WO 00/44816	8/3/2000	WIPO			XX		
	AI	EP 1 348 716 A1	10/1/2003	EPO			XX		
	AJ	53-23398	3/3/1978	Japan				XX	
	AK								
	AL								

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AM	O.Savadogo; "Emerging Membranes for Electrochemical Systems: (I) Solid Polymer Electrolyte Membranes for Fuel Cell Systems"; March 10, 1998; Pages 47-68
	AN	Kenji MIYATAKE, et al; "Synthesis of Poly (phenylene sulfide sulfonic acid) via Poly (sulfonium cation) as a Thermostable Proton-Conducting Polymer"; July 22, 1996; Pages 6969-6971
	AO	(C) Derwent Publications; 2002-316330; Univ. Shanghai Jiaotong

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APPLICANT

OTSUKI, et al.

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GROUP

1751

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,221,482	6/22/1993	Yasushi MAEDA			
	AB	2002/0045729 A1	4/18/2002	Jochen KERRES, et al.			
	AC	2003/0013817 A1	1/16/2003	Kelly LU			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

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	AG								
	AH								
	AI								
	AJ								
	AK								
	AL								

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AM	(C) Derwent; 1978-28042A; Teijin Ltd.
	AN	
	AO	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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